CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Currently amended) A method for volume manager based redundant array of independent disks (RAID) creation, comprising:

~~**obtaining information on a data portion of a disk RAID volume;**~~

monitoring input/output (I/O) operations between an information handling system volume manager and an information handling system disk driver;

intercepting I/O operations between the volume manager and the disk driver;

if an intercepted I/O operation is a write operation to a data portion of a disk RAID volume, returning a success status to a requesting application before taking further action with respect to write data associated with the write operation; and

~~**if an intercepted I/O operation is a read operation of the data portion of the RAID volume, returning a zeroed buffer to a requesting application**~~

if an intercepted I/O operation is an access to a non-data portion of the disk RAID volume, passing the non-data portion access I/O operation to the disk driver for processing.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising initializing creation of a parity based RAID.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, further comprising creating a RAID-5 parity based RAID.

4. **(Currently amended)** An information handling system, comprising

at least one processor;

a memory operably associated with the processor;

at least three information storage devices operably coupled to the memory and the processor; and

a program of instructions storable in the memory and executable by the processor, the program of instructions operable to intercept input/output (I/O) operations during creation of a redundant array of independent disks (RAID) on the information storage devices, process I/O operations directed to accessing RAID disk structures, process I/O operations directed to accessing RAID configuration information **by passing them to a disk driver for processing**, provide for processing of I/O operations accessing a data portion of the RAID, and respond to write operations to the data portion with a successful status before further processing write data associated with the write operations.

5. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 4, further comprising the program of instructions operable to intercept I/O instructions between a volume manager and a disk driver of the information handling system.

6. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 5, further comprising the program of instructions operable to intercept all I/O operations between the volume manager and the disk driver during RAID creation.

7. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 4, further comprising the program of instructions operable to verify that the information storage devices have been zeroed.

8. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 4, further comprising the program of instructions operable to respond to read operations of the data portion with a zeroed buffer.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 4, further comprising the program of instructions operable during creation of a parity-based RAID.

11. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 10, further comprising the program of instructions operable during creation of a RAID-5 parity-based RAID.

12. **(Currently amended)** A computer readable medium comprising a program of instructions, the program of instructions implementing a method for redundant array of independent disks (RAID) creation, the program of instructions operable to cause an information handling system to:

monitor input/output (I/O) operations submitted for processing by an information handling system disk driver;

filter I/O operations associated with a data portion of the RAID; **~~and~~**

responsive to detecting write operations addressing the data portion of the RAID, generating a signal indicative of a predefined completion status of the write operations before further processing write data associated with the write operations**; and**

responsive to detecting an I/O operation to a non-data portion of the RAID, passing the non-data portion access I/O operation to the disk driver for processing.

13. (Cancelled)

14. **(Currently Amended)** The computer readable medium of Claim **[[14]] 12**, further comprising the program of instructions operable to return write operations with a good status.

15. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 12, further comprising the program of instructions operable to return read operations of the data portion with a predefined parity value.

16. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 15, further comprising the program of instructions operable to return zero parity value.

17. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 12, further comprising the program of instructions operable to intercept all I/O operations between a volume manager and a disk driver of the information handling system.

18. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 12, further comprising the program of instructions operable to pass to the disk driver for processing, I/O operations associated with configuration of the RAID.

19. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 12, further comprising the program of instructions operable to pass to the disk driver for processing, I/O operations concerning RAID disk structures.

20. (Original) The computer readable medium of Claim 12, further comprising the program of instructions operable during RAID-5 creation.

21. **(Canceled)**.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein responding to write operations to the data portion with a successful status before further processing write data comprises responding to write operations to the data portion with a successful status before passing the write data to a next driver.